

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A bicycle rim comprising:  
an outer annular portion adapted to receive a tire thereon, said outer annular portion having an outer spoke attachment opening;  
an inner annular portion fixedly coupled with said outer annular portion to form an annular hollow area therebetween, said inner annular portion having an inner spoke attachment opening aligned with said outer spoke attachment opening;  
a first tubular spoke attachment portion heat fused ~~fixedly coupled~~ to said outer annular portion at said outer spoke attachment opening; and  
a second tubular spoke attachment portion heat fused ~~fixedly coupled~~ to said inner annular portion at said inner spoke attachment opening;  
said first and second tubular spoke attachment portions defining a spoke receiving space with an internal surface configured and dimensioned to secure an end of a spoke within said spoke receiving space, at least one of said first and second tubular spoke attachment portions having a rim abutment surface that contacts a radially facing surface of the rim to limit radial movement relative to the rim ~~and being heat fused to a respective one of said outer and inner annular portions.~~

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein each of said first tubular spoke attachment portions is integrally formed with one of said second tubular spoke attachment portions as a one-piece ~~one-piece, unitary~~ member with a longitudinally extending internal passageway that forms one of said spoke receiving spaces.

6. (Previously Presented) The bicycle rim according to claim 5, wherein said internal passageways are at least partially threaded.

7. (Previously Presented) The bicycle rim according to claim 6, wherein said internal passageways are through bores.

8. (Previously Presented - Withdrawn) The bicycle rim according to claim 6, wherein said internal passageways are blind bores.

9. (Previously Presented - Withdrawn) The bicycle rim according to claim 5, wherein said internal passageways are stepped through bores with each stepped through bore having an internal abutment surface.

10. (Previously Presented - Withdrawn) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions are separate members from said second tubular spoke attachment portions.

11. (Previously Presented - Withdrawn) The bicycle rim according to claim 10, wherein each of the first and second tubular spoke attachment portions has an internal bore formed therein that is at least partially threaded such that said internal bores of both said first and second tubular spoke attachment portions at least partially define said spoke receiving spaces.

12. (Previously Presented) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions are at least partially located within said outer spoke attachment openings; and  
said second tubular spoke attachment portions are at least partially located within said inner spoke attachment openings.

13. (Previously Presented) The bicycle rim according to claim 12, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions extend radially inwardly from said outer annular portion into said hollow area of said rim; and  
said second tubular spoke attachment portions extend radially outwardly from said inner annular portion into said hollow area of said rim.

14. (Currently Amended) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein ~~said at least one of~~ said first tubular spoke attachment portions and second tubular spoke attachment portions are ~~that is heat fused to said one of said outer and inner annular portions, respectively, is welded to said one of~~ said outer and inner annular portions, respectively.

15. (Currently Amended) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein ~~said at least one of~~ said first tubular spoke attachment portions and said second tubular spoke attachment portions are ~~that is heat fused to said one of said outer and inner annular portions, respectively, is~~ brazed to ~~said one of~~ said outer and inner annular portions, respectively.

16. (Currently Amended) A bicycle rim comprising:  
an outer annular portion adapted to receive a tire thereon, said outer annular portion having a plurality of circumferentially spaced outer spoke attachment openings;  
an inner annular portion fixedly coupled with said outer annular portion to form an annular hollow area therebetween, said inner annular portion having a plurality of

circumferentially spaced inner spoke attachment openings aligned with said outer spoke attachment openings;

a plurality of first tubular spoke attachment portions fixedly coupled to said outer annular portion at said outer spoke attachment openings; and

a plurality of second tubular spoke attachment portions fixedly coupled to said inner annular portion at said inner spoke attachment openings;

said first and second tubular spoke attachment portions defining a plurality of circumferentially spaced spoke receiving spaces,

~~at least one of said first tubular spoke attachment portions being heat fused to said outer annular portion~~ and said second tubular spoke attachment portions being heat fused to ~~one of said outer and inner annular portion portions, respectively.~~

17. (Currently Amended) A bicycle wheel comprising:

an annular rim including

an outer annular portion adapted to receive a tire thereon, said outer annular portion having a plurality of circumferentially spaced outer spoke attachment openings,

an inner annular portion fixedly coupled with said outer annular portion to form an annular hollow area therebetween, said inner annular portion having a plurality of circumferentially spaced inner spoke attachment openings aligned with said outer spoke attachment openings,

a plurality of first tubular spoke attachment portions being heat fused ~~fixedly coupled~~ to said outer annular portion at said outer spoke attachment openings, each of said first tubular spoke attachment portions having a first internal bore, a plurality of second tubular spoke attachment portions being heat fused ~~fixedly and directly coupled~~ to said inner annular portion at said inner spoke attachment openings, each of said second tubular spoke attachment portions having a second internal bore, said second internal bores being ~~that is aligned with one of said first internal bores~~ to form a plurality of spoke receiving spaces, each spoke receiving space being at least partially threaded;

a plurality of spokes with each of said spokes including an outer end portion, an inner end portion and an elongated central portion extending between said outer end portion and said inner end portion, each of said outer end portions of said spokes being integrally formed with one of said elongated central portions as a one-piece ~~one-piece, unitary~~ member, each of said outer end portions of said spokes being directly threadedly coupled within one of said spoke receiving spaces; and

a central hub with said inner end portions of said spokes coupled thereto.

Claim 18 (Cancelled)

Claim 19 (Cancelled)

Claim 20 (Cancelled)

21. (Currently Amended) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein each of said first tubular spoke attachment portions is integrally formed with one of said second tubular spoke attachment portions as a one-piece ~~to form a one-piece, unitary~~ member with a longitudinally extending internal passageway that forms said spoke receiving space.

22. (Original) The bicycle wheel according to claim 21, wherein each of said internal passageways is a through bore.

23. (Withdrawn) The bicycle wheel according to claim 21, wherein each of said internal passageways is a blind bore.

24. (Withdrawn) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions are separate members from said second tubular spoke attachment portions such that each of said first and second internal bores partially defines one of said spoke receiving spaces.

25. (Withdrawn) The bicycle wheel according to claim 24, wherein each of said first and second internal bores is at least partially threaded.

26. (Original) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions are at least partially located within said outer spoke attachment openings; and  
said second tubular spoke attachment portions are at least partially located within said inner spoke attachment openings.

27. (Original) The bicycle wheel according to claim 26, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions extend radially inwardly from said outer annular portion into said hollow area of said rim; and  
said second tubular spoke attachment portions extend radially outwardly from said inner annular portion into said hollow area of said rim.

28. (Currently Amended) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein ~~at least one of~~ said first tubular spoke attachment portions and said second tubular spoke attachment portions are is welded to ~~one of~~ said outer and inner annular portions, respectively.

29. (Currently Amended) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein ~~at least one of~~ said first tubular spoke attachment portions and said second tubular spoke attachment portions are is brazed to ~~one of~~ said outer and inner annular portions, respectively.

30. (Currently Amended) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein each of said inner end portions of said spokes includes a threaded shaft section that is integrally formed with one of said elongated central portions as a one-piece ~~one-piece~~, ~~unitary~~ member, and  
each of said threaded shaft sections is threadedly coupled to a spoke nipple that is rotatably coupled to said central hub.

31. (New) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein at least one of said first tubular spoke attachment portions and said second tubular spoke attachment portions having a rim abutment surface that contacts a radially facing surface of the rim to limit radial movement of the rim, respectively.

32. (New) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein all of said first tubular spoke attachment portions are identical to each other and all of said second tubular spoke attachment portions are identical to each other.

33. (New) The bicycle wheel according to claim 17, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions are constructed of the same material as the outer annular portion and said second tubular spoke attachment portions are constructed of the same material as the inner annular portion.

34. (New) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein at least one of said first tubular spoke attachment portions and said second tubular spoke attachment portions having a rim abutment surface that contacts a radially facing surface of the rim to limit radial movement of the rim, respectively.

35. (New) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein all of said first tubular spoke attachment portions are identical to each other and all of said second tubular spoke attachment portions are identical to each other.

36. (New) The bicycle rim according to claim 16, wherein said first tubular spoke attachment portions are constructed of the same material as the outer annular portion and said second tubular spoke attachment portions are constructed of the same material as the inner annular portion.